

stress is rightly laid on the absolute fixation of the larynx during the whole time of the operation, not by a hook, but by seizing the thyroid cartilage between the thumb and middle finger of the left hand, the index finger being used to mark the lower border of the cricoid cartilage.

Chapter V. describes faulty operations. Several important hints are given in this chapter. Amongst others attention is drawn to the fact that the isthmus of the thyroid may be divided with absolute impunity.

Chapter VI. deals with accidents during operation, and chapter VII with after treatment. This chapter is perhaps the best in the book, and gives a number of most valuable particulars respecting food, warmth, protection of the tube and way of removing the tube, etc.

Chapter VIII., and last, treats of various complications which may occur, of which the most important is broncho-pneumonia. There is much in these last two chapters that deserves special notice; but enough has been said to indicate the value of this treatise, which we cordially commend to the medical practitioner.

BENJ. WAINWRIGHT.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL REPORTS. Edited by W. S. CHURCH, M.D., and W. J. WALSHAM, F.R.C.S. Vol. XXIII., London: Smith, Elder & Co., 1887.

The surgical part of this volume contains, as usual, some contributions of great value. In fact, it is rather better than usual.

Mr. Butlin describes in detail two cases of cancer of the breast which he treated with caustics. The skin was destroyed with Vienna paste, *i. e.*, equal parts of caustic potash and caustic lime well powdered and made into a paste with alcohol. The deeper parts were burnt with Bougard's paste, of which the formula is:

Wheat flour,	-	-	-	60	grammes.
Starch,	-	-	-	60	"
Arsenic,	-	-	-	1	"
Cinnabar,	-	-	-	5	"
Sal ammoniac,	-	-	-	5	"
Corrosive sublimate,	-			0.5	centigrammes.
Solution of zinc chloride at 52°,				245	grammes.

All the ingredients, except the last, are separately ground and reduced to fine powder; they are then mixed in a mortar of glass or china, and the solution of chloride of zinc is slowly poured in, while the

contents are kept rapidly moved with the pestle so that no lumps may be formed. The soft homogeneous mass is poured into an earthenware pot with a cover, and may be kept for several months.

Bougard's instructions as to the mode of using the paste were followed in the treatment of Butlin's two cases.

Both patients were old women. In both the disease was removed, locally at least, and cicatrization followed. In one the temperature rose during four days, twice reaching 103° or 104°.

Mr. Butlin regards it as beyond question that the treatment by caustics is less dangerous to life than that by the knife. We should say this depends upon circumstances and persons.

For protection of the surrounding skin Butlin recommends soap plaster. In conclusion he urges that caustic should be used far more frequently in surgical practice than it hitherto has been, especially, he thinks, it should be used in cases in which there are reasons to dread a surgical operation, and that in many other cases patients should be given the choice between caustics and the knife, setting before them as clearly as possible the amount of risk to life on the one hand, the pain and slow course of treatment on the other.

He compares the caustic-using quacks to the bone-setters, and thinks there is a great deal to be learnt from both. In the matter of roguery and wholesale systematic lying no doubt there is.

Dr. Herringham's case of tumor of the cerebellum, with his remarks on it, will interest surgeons by its bearings on the diagnosis of head injuries and tumors.

Dr. Goodsall gives notes of twenty cases of foreign bodies in the rectum, and draws from them a number of very definite conclusions. See index of surgical progress.

Mr. Walsham has an elaborate and able article on nasal obstruction and its treatment.

Mr. Marsh writes on the association of suppuration with malignant disease.

Mr. Thomas Smith adds three cases occurring in the same family to the literature of the affection known as "multiple polypi of the lower bowel."

Mr. Willet has been experimenting very successfully with the hot water bath used continuously for cases of long standing suppuration with surgical hectic. His cases, reported by Messrs. Cholmley and Davidson, must help those of the Liverpool surgeons, published last year to bring into more general use an exceedingly neglected but valuable remedy.

Not the least valuable parts of the book are the elaborate and well analyzed reports, chiefly statistical, of the hospital registrars, Dr. West and Mr. Bowlby.

C. B. KEETLEY.

ANATOMY, DESCRIPTIVE AND SURGICAL. By HENRY GRAY, F.R.S., Lecturer on Anatomy at St. George's Hospital, London. Edited by T. PICKERING PICK, F.R.C.S., Examiner in Anatomy, Royal College of Surgeons of England. A new American from the eleventh enlarged and improved London edition, thoroughly revised and re-edited by WILLIAM W. KEEN, M. D., Professor of Anatomy in the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, etc. To which is added the second American from the latest English edition of Landmarks, Medical and Surgical, by LUTHER HOLDEN, F.R.C.S. In one imperial octavo volume of 1099 pages, with 685 large and elaborate engravings on wood. Philadelphia, Lea Brothers & Co., 1887.

The new edition of Gray's Anatomy affords us a great deal of pleasure. The work has always been a popular one with students, rather because of its systematic arrangement and the distinctness of its illustrations than from any distinctively literary merit, however. The text was bald and unattractive, and in this respect it compared unfavorably with similar works by other English anatomists, but it excelled in its pictorial representations. We believe that Dr. Carter has never received the portion of the credit properly due him for the success of the work. While not possessing the artistic merit of Wandelaar or Bidloo, nor the minuteness of Henle, or Cruveilhier, they present the peculiar quality of instructiveness to a remarkable degree. His plan of directly lettering the delineations of organs, instead of indicating them by references, is so clearly the best possible method that it is surprising that it has not been universally adopted. The original number of engravings has in the present edition been more than doubled by judicious addition from the best work of other artists, and the feature of indicating the arteries, veins, nerves and the muscular attachments in colors, has been adopted.

The editorial work in this edition has been extensive and searching. A notable improvement consists in the substitution for the Introduction of former editions, of two sections on General Anatomy and Reproduction, respectively, in which each of these subjects has been brought up to date. The bones, muscles, joints, vessels and viscera all bear evidence of minute editorial scrutiny, but in the chapters upon the ner-